

# Equal Access Committee Update

Chairman Mark Burkhalter  
Staff  
Kimberly King

# Program Updates

- RFPs have been solicited and responses received for State and Federal Supportive Services contracts.
- We anticipate the need for assistance and support to firms on our state funded projects in much the same way firms are supported on federally funded projects.
- We have already begun preparing the DBE firms for opportunities on the upcoming maintenance projects.

# Transportation Funding Act 2015

- Reviewing the project qualifications in our maintenance projects to ensure the qualifications are reasonably related to the work types in the projects and therefore available for small business opportunities.
- EEO is a part of a PSA identifying the TFA project types, qualification expectations and available participation assistance.
- Participated in an SBA webinar to communicate TFA opportunities to a specific small business audience.
- Small group meetings are held every Friday in EEO to communicate work types and qualification considerations to firms interested in working on these State funded projects.
- Objective is to make certain eligible firms know about the work, the expected schedule of projects and how to prepare their businesses for those work opportunities.

# DBE Goal Setting 2015

- Every three years, the Agency must set a DBE goal for its federally funded projects.
- The federal regulations provide a specific methodology for setting a goal.
- As a matter of law, the goal must be supported by evidence of some disparity in the participation opportunities provided to minorities and women.
- Once identified, that disparity is then used to demonstrate “a compelling governmental interest” in a Program to address the disparity.
- Our DBE Program and the goal(s) attached thereto provide the response to identified disparity.

# DBE Goal Attainment in Awards

	2013	2014	2015	Average
DBE Participation in Prime Contracts	0.05%	0.10%	1%	0.36%
DBE Participation in Subcontracts	36%	32%	36%	34.50%
DBE Participation Overall	10%	13%	19%	14.06%

# DBE Goal Setting 2015

- GDOT again utilized a disparity study to support its triennial goal setting;
- Based on the federally mandated methodology:
  - a.GDOT identified vendors from relevant sources to create a master list;
  - b. From this list, a base line goal was developed;
  - c. Once base line identified, Agency made necessary Step 2 adjustments;
  - d.Those adjustments allow us to consider the unique manner in which GDOT does business;

# DBE Goal Setting 2015

- Our resulting Agency wide DBE goal is 15%,
- Though this is the same as our current goal, and is based upon the methodology provided by FHWA, anticipated changes in the Program provide additional support to this number.
- The disparity study identified overconcentration in trucking. The federal regulations expect an Agency to address overconcentration when identified.

# DBE Goal Setting 2015

- Trucking accounts for about 81% of DBE goal attainment on federally funded GDOT projects,
- In order to identify greater diversity in available work types, we plan to implement:
  - a. one for one trucking,
  - b. a joint check policy,
  - c. a diminished credit percentage for DBE trucking over time.

# DBE Goal Setting 2015

- Changes to the Program will recognize the need to diminish the heavy reliance on trucking to meet DBE project goals,
- Will assist in the development of diverse work areas for goal attainment,
- Will allow us to “watch” the Program change and determine if the identified goal is appropriate to the work type(s) utilized.
- Additionally, we will begin reporting and collecting data relative to race neutral goal attainment. Where there are no project goals, we will still collect data on DBE participation on that project. This allows us to identify areas where race neutral participation **is** happening and areas where that participation **could be** happening.